



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

LAW AND THE FAMILY. By Robert Grant. New York: Scribners' Sons. 1919.

Under the title of "Law and the Family" Judge Robert Grant of the Boston, Massachusetts, Probate Court has collected a series of essays or papers for laymen upon such subjects as Women and Property, the Relation of the Third Generation to Invested Property, generally when it comes out of trust, the Perils of Will-Making, the Future of Women under the Law, Domestic Relations, Feminine Independence, and Marriage and Divorce.

The position of Judge of Probate in an important county in a New England state may, under favorable circumstances, be a singularly interesting and broadening experience, and Judge Grant in his varying capacity as an author and a judge is excellent evidence of the possibilities of this office. Departing in this case from his more usual habit of writing fiction, he applies the insight of an author to the problems of an administrative judge. A good judge of probate never loses touch with the lay portions of the community. Every twenty years or so all the property in the community passes through his court and under his eye. A very substantial part of that property remains under his eye year after year as trust property. The interpretation of the law to laymen could not easily come from a better source. The man who is part judge, part *parens patrii*, and part administrator, must necessarily understand the institutions of property and inheritance as laymen experience them.

The variety of subjects dealt with by Judge Grant is too great for comment here. From the interesting suggestion that women will make good executors based upon the will of the late Secretary of State Richard Olney, through the discussion of whether it is better to have a conservative trustee or a brave one, Judge Grant passes on to the melodrama of adoption, the domestic relations, and divorce.

His book merits attention principally because of the skill and insight with which he presents the common sense of law as he administers it. His views should be interesting both to the laymen who do not understand law, and to the lawyers who cannot see the wood for the trees.

BOSTON.

RICHARD W. HALE.

CASES ON THE LAW OF EVIDENCE. By Edward W. Hinton. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 1919. pp. xxiii, 1098.

This collection of cases is well adapted to its purpose: instruction in the law schools. The arrangement is especially good. In chapter I the editor treats of the respective functions of court and jury, including such topics as The Burden of Proof, Presumption, and Judicial Notice. Some difference of opinion exists among teachers as to the proper placing of these extraneous matters; Professor John H. Wigmore in both editions of his *Cases on Evidence* placed them near the end; and many teachers have followed this method in the arrangement of their courses; on the other hand, Professor Hinton follows Professor James Bradley Thayer in treating them at the beginning. The writer ventures the opinion that the latter is the better method, since these topics mainly involve certain matters of procedure which the student should know before he is called upon to examine cases dealing with the law of evidence proper. Moreover the topics are comparatively difficult and uninteresting; it is true that for this reason some instructors prefer to take them up last, but it is submitted that it is better for instructor and student to get this rather disagreeable task out of the way as soon as possible.

Chapter II deals with Witnesses. Certain instructors have preferred to treat this subject first, being largely influenced by the fact that it is the part of the course most attractive to the student. In Thayer's *Cases* the subject is treated